

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) An optical connector for connecting an optical fiber to a mating optical fiber by bringing an end face of said optical fiber into contact with an end face of said mating optical fiber in a predetermined direction, said optical connector comprising:

a housing;

an aligning portion fixedly coupled to said housing and having a hole for insertion of said optical fiber;

a guide portion coupled to said housing for guiding one part of said optical fiber to said hole in said aligning portion; and

a holding portion mounted on said housing to be movable in said predetermined direction for holding the other part of said optical fiber, said holding portion being fixed to said housing with said optical fiber inserted into said hole in said aligning portion, said holding portion being moved in said predetermined direction to adjust the amount of protrusion of said optical fiber from an end face of said aligning portion.

2. (original) The optical connector according to claim 1, wherein said housing, said aligning portion, and said guide portion are integrally formed with one another.

3. (Presently Amended) The optical connector according to claim 1, wherein said aligning portion is ~~a component integrally formed~~ integrally with said guide portion.

4. (original) The optical connector according to claim 1, wherein said aligning portion comprises:

a first portion provided with a groove; and

a second portion put on said first portion to cover said groove so that said groove forms said hole.

5. (original) The optical connector according to claim 4, wherein said groove has a V-shaped section.

6. (original) The optical connector according to claim 1, wherein said aligning portion comprises:

a first portion provided with a first groove; and

a second portion put on said first portion to cover said groove, said second portion being provided with a second groove faced to said first groove, said first and said second grooves forming said hole.

7. (original) Then optical connector according to claim 6, wherein each of said first and said second grooves has a V-shaped section.

8. (Canceled)